

**To:** Haman, Patricia[Haman.Patricia@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Palich, Christian[palich.christian@epa.gov]; Woods, Clint[woods.clint@epa.gov]; Kaiser, Sven-Erik[Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Thiede, Kurt[thiede.kurt@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Frye, Tony (Robert)[frye.robert@epa.gov]; Ringel, Aaron[ringel.aaron@epa.gov]; Rodrick, Christian[rodrick.christian@epa.gov]  
**From:** Stepp, Cathy[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BEFDAFC0FA1A425EAE232F60AD9BDA1D-STEPP, CATH]  
**Sent:** Thur 11/8/2018 6:08:03 PM (UTC)  
**Subject:** Re: Duckworth/Durbin Responses on Ethylene Oxide

Thanks all

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 8, 2018, at 11:58 AM, Haman, Patricia <Haman.Patricia@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the exchange Matthew Davis had with a Foster staffer. I believe Christian Rodrick responded to a Lipinski staffer too. I am cc'g him and Aaron. Pat

Hi Gary,

Good to chat with you today in follow-up to your boss' questions. I've attached the stack testing protocols for Sterigenics, which are public documents that we got from Illinois EPA. I don't know whether IEPA has posted them on their web, but I believe they had not when we contacted them to get copies of them. And, here is the website, housed under the main EPA site, where the same air quality monitoring data that was included on that previous website has been and is still posted: <https://www.epa.gov/il/sterigenics-willowbrook-facility-documents>.

I'll let you know if our technical experts have any thoughts for troubleshooting that "Cancer Risk" tab on the interactive map.

Thanks,  
Matthew

**From:** Timmins, Gary [mailto:Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 4:54 PM  
**To:** Davis, Matthew <Davis.Matthew@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Rep. Foster Request

Great – thanks.

If it's alright, the Congressman's district director and myself will be on the call as well.

**From:** Davis, Matthew <Davis.Matthew@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 12:06 PM  
**To:** Timmins, Gary <Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <ringel.aaron@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Rep. Foster Request

Gary,

That sounds good, thanks for the quick response. Please have Rep. Foster call  
Participation code

Conference Phone or Code / Ex. 6

Conference Phone or Code / Ex. 6

Thanks,

Matthew

**From:** Timmins, Gary [<mailto:Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 11:23 AM  
**To:** Davis, Matthew <[Davis.Matthew@epa.gov](mailto:Davis.Matthew@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Rep. Foster Request

Thanks, Matthew.

Let's go with 10:00am tomorrow.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Much appreciated.

Gary

**From:** Davis, Matthew <[Davis.Matthew@epa.gov](mailto:Davis.Matthew@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 10:59 AM  
**To:** Timmins, Gary <[Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov](mailto:Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov)>  
**Cc:** Ringel, Aaron <[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Rep. Foster Request

Hi Gary,

Thank you for your note. I've checked in with folks here and we'd like to offer Rep. Foster a call with Bill Wehrum, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation. He has availability tomorrow at 10am ET, Thursday at 4pm ET, or Friday at 12:30pm ET. Please let me know what works best for the congressman's schedule, and I can provide a phone number to call.

Thanks,

Matthew

Matthew H. Davis

Office of Congressional Affairs

U.S. EPA

1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW, MC 1301A

Washington, DC 20460

(202) 564-1267

**From:** Timmins, Gary [<mailto:Gary.Timmins@mail.house.gov>]

**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2018 1:53 PM

**To:** OCIRmail <[OCIRmail@epa.gov](mailto:OCIRmail@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Rep. Foster Request

Hello,

Congressman Foster would like to schedule a phone conversation with Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler regarding the ongoing situation involving ethylene oxide emissions by Sterigenics in Willowbrook, Illinois.

Thank you.

Gary Timmins

Legislative Assistant

Congressman Bill Foster

Patricia E. Haman

Office of Congressional Affairs

U.S. EPA

202-564-2806

On Nov 8, 2018, at 9:18 AM, Palich, Christian <[palich.christian@epa.gov](mailto:palich.christian@epa.gov)> wrote:

Clint,

See email below I sent to Durbin/Duckworth staff following up on things from the call with AW.

*Hi Jasmine & Radha,*

*Hope you are having a great week. Below are our responses to the follow up questions resulting from the Senator's October 10<sup>th</sup> call with Administrator Wheeler. The other follow up was the briefing for the regional realignment, specifically Region 5 that we have scheduled with you for November 5<sup>th</sup> with Deputy Administrator Darwin.*

*In a couple of the answers below we mention we are happy to provide further briefings if you would like, just please let us know if you are interested. As always please let us know if you have any further questions.*

**Q: Make public the rule making process public for ethylene oxide, per court order (Q1):**

*A: Several existing rules issued under Clean Air Act Section 112 cover sources associated with ethylene oxide emissions. Regulatory processes are already underway or due for these rules. For example, the agency currently is reviewing its rule for the Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing source category. The agency anticipates proposing necessary revisions to that rule in the spring of 2019, reviewing public comments submitted on that proposal, and finalizing the rule revisions in March 2020. Simultaneously, the Agency is reviewing other rules associated with emissions of ethylene oxide, including commercial sterilizers and manufacturers of chemicals such as polyether polyols and hazardous organics. We will release those schedules as they are determined.*

**Q: What is the difference between manganese standard for EPA vs ATSDR:**

*A:*

- The ATSDR minimal risk level (MRL) for chronic exposure for manganese inhalation is 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (micrograms manganese per cubic meter). The ATSDR MRLs are intended to serve as screening levels and are used by ATSDR health assessors and other responders to identify contaminants and potential health effects that may be of concern at hazardous waste sites. It is important to note that MRLs are not intended to define clean up or action levels for ATSDR or other Agencies.*
- The EPA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) reference concentration (RfC) for chronic exposure for manganese inhalation is 0.05 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. At EPA, RfCs are developed to be more generally applicable as the best available estimates of toxicity, which may be used to support a broad variety of policy, risk assessment, or risk management decisions including screening levels, health advisory level, cleanup level, or regulatory level.*
- EPA and ATSDR used the same underlying study (Roels et al 1992), however each agency used different uncertainty factors and exposure duration adjustments and so arrived at different values.*
- Neither value is a standard nor limits the amount of manganese allowed in the air.*

**Q: Where did the criticism of the science on TCE come from-industry or science community:**

*A: Regarding TCE, EPA received criticism on the TCE IRIS assessment from both industry and federal agency (NASA and DoD) scientists. We would be glad to brief you on both the TSCA section 6 proposed rule on TCE and the TCE risk evaluation underway under amended TSCA, including EPA's systematic review approach.*

**Q: What is the EPA's lead strategy:**

*A: EPA shares your concern about lead exposures and its effects. EPA co-chairs the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children (Task Force) that is developing a new Federal Strategy to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposure and Eliminate Associated Health Impacts (Federal strategy). Given the importance of this issue and the consensus required across 17 Federal agencies and offices, we are working diligently to complete the Federal strategy in a timely manner. Also, this week EPA released "Protecting Children from Lead Exposures," (see link below) highlighting ongoing efforts across the country. We will be glad to provide a briefing when the strategy is released.*

*Protecting Children from Lead Exposures*

Christian R. Palich  
Deputy Associate Administrator

ED\_002192D\_00253189-00004

Office of Congressional & Intergovernmental Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
O: 202.564.4944  
C: 202.306.4656  
E: [Palich.Christian@epa.gov](mailto:Palich.Christian@epa.gov)

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**From:** Woods, Clint  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 8, 2018 9:01 AM  
**To:** Kaiser, Sven-Erik <[Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov](mailto:Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lyons, Troy <[lyons.troy@epa.gov](mailto:lyons.troy@epa.gov)>; Stepp, Cathy <[stepp.cathy@epa.gov](mailto:stepp.cathy@epa.gov)>; Haman, Patricia <[Haman.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Haman.Patricia@epa.gov)>; Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>; Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)>; Palich, Christian <[palich.christian@epa.gov](mailto:palich.christian@epa.gov)>; Frye, Tony (Robert) <[frye.robert@epa.gov](mailto:frye.robert@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Duckworth/Durbin Responses on Ethylene Oxide

Sven,

Thanks - Don't worry about the other piece for now, I'll follow up with Troy to see if we can't get some forward looking tracking going (and I think Kristen Bremer in OAQPS May already have that started). On Nov 8, 2018, at 8:56 AM, Kaiser, Sven-Erik <[Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov](mailto:Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov)> wrote:

Clint – my involvement has been on the TSCA side of things. Below is an email to Senator Duckworth's staffer Radha Adhar about regulating ethylene oxide under TSCA. In addition, we're responding to TSCA inquiries from Duckworth and Durbin on lead and TCE – do you want that info too? Please let me know if any questions.  
Thanks,  
Sven

Sven-Erik Kaiser  
U.S. EPA  
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (1305A)  
Washington, DC 20460  
202-566-2753 (o)  
202-591-0619 (c)

\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Kaiser, Sven-Erik  
**Sent:** Friday, October 12, 2018 12:26 PM  
**To:** 'Radha adhar@duckworth.senate.gov' <[Radha\\_adhar@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Radha_adhar@duckworth.senate.gov)>; 'david applegate@duckworth.senate.gov' <[david\\_applegate@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:david_applegate@duckworth.senate.gov)>; 'virginia hayes@duckworth.senate.gov' <[virginia\\_hayes@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:virginia_hayes@duckworth.senate.gov)>; Deamer, Eileen <[deamer.eileen@epa.gov](mailto:deamer.eileen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Sen. Duckworth ethylene oxide question re: TSCA

Radha – This responds to your question about regulating ethylene oxide under TSCA. TSCA requires that EPA have 20 high-priority chemicals undergoing risk evaluation and 20 chemicals designated as low-priority by late 2019. TSCA also mandates that at least 50 percent of the high priority chemicals must come from the 2014 Update to the TSCA Work Plan for Chemical Assessments. Although ethylene oxide is not on the 2014 TSCA Work Plan, EPA will also consider other chemicals. To inform prioritization and risk evaluation, the agency recently opened public dockets to gather information on the Work Plan chemicals as well as a general docket for any other chemicals – information on the dockets is available [here](#). Please let me know if any additional questions. Thanks,  
Sven

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**From:** Lyons, Troy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 07, 2018 9:19 PM  
**To:** Woods, Clint <[woods.Clint@epa.gov](mailto:woods.Clint@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Stepp, Cathy <[stepp.cathy@epa.gov](mailto:stepp.cathy@epa.gov)>; Haman, Patricia <[Haman.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Haman.Patricia@epa.gov)>; Thiede, Kurt <[thiede.kurt@epa.gov](mailto:thiede.kurt@epa.gov)>; Konkus, John <[konkus.john@epa.gov](mailto:konkus.john@epa.gov)>; Kaiser, Sven-Erik <[Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov](mailto:Kaiser.Sven-Erik@epa.gov)>; Palich, Christian <[palich.christian@epa.gov](mailto:palich.christian@epa.gov)>; Frye, Tony (Robert) <[frye.robert@epa.gov](mailto:frye.robert@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Urgent

Thanks for the clarification

Sven/Christian: could you provide Clint w the informal/email responses we have sent to duckworth and durbin?

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 7, 2018, at 8:50 PM, Woods, Clint <[woods.clint@epa.gov](mailto:woods.clint@epa.gov)> wrote:

There are several formal and informal responses which have been provided.  
On Nov 7, 2018, at 6:57 PM, Stepp, Cathy <[stepp.cathy@epa.gov](mailto:stepp.cathy@epa.gov)> wrote:

So no connections since 9/27? Maybe calls? Perhaps this is something we can help with. Feel free to use us.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 7, 2018, at 1:45 PM, Haman, Patricia <[Haman.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Haman.Patricia@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Troy, I am not aware of any letters to members of Congress regarding EtO after the September letters Aaron provided below.

The next letter up is the one we sent you last Friday for acting administrator Wheeler's review and signature. Both R5 and OAR staff have reviewed that draft.

Please let me know if I can provide anything else.

Pat

Patricia E. Haman  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. EPA  
202-564-2806  
Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Ringel, Aaron"  
<[ringel.aaron@epa.gov](mailto:ringel.aaron@epa.gov)>  
**To:** "Lyons, Troy"  
<[lyons.troy@epa.gov](mailto:lyons.troy@epa.gov)>, "Haman, Patricia"  
<[Haman.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Haman.Patricia@epa.gov)>,  
"Thundiyil, Karen"  
<[Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Thundiyil.Karen@epa.gov)>, "Davis, Matthew"

<Davis.Matthew@epa.gov>

**Cc:** "Richardson, RobinH"

<Richardson.RobinH@epa.gov>,

"Rodrick, Christian"

<rodrick.christian@epa.gov>, "Palich,  
Christian"

<palich.christian@epa.gov>, "Frye,  
Tony (Robert)"

<frye.robert@epa.gov>

**Subject: RE: Urgent**

To the best of my knowledge  
attached is everything that has gone  
out so far to members and the state.  
They are all from the initial outreach  
from the relevant offices. I believe  
there is one more letter in the  
approval pipeline currently as well to  
Sens. Durbin and Duckworth along  
with Rep. Foster.

<Signed Response to Hon. Daniel Lipinski re  
Willowbrook -- AL-18-001-1090 (002).pdf>

<Signed Response to Hon. Peter Roskam -- OAR-18-  
001-1156.pdf>

<Signed Response to Hon. Bruce Rauner, Governor  
of IL re Willowbrook -- OAR-18-001-1156.pdf>

<Foster.pdf>

<Durbin.pdf>

<Duckworth.pdf>